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Summer 2014 Edition

Megan Maxwell, Editor

In This Issue

Sweet Tea Shakespeare Shakes up Summer

Intern Shout Out

The Key to Collections and More

Join the MCFHC Foundation

Summer Camp Recap

Upcoming Events



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Summer Nights Sippin' On Sweet Tea at the 1897 Poe House



A local theater group is shaking things up at the 1897 Poe House this summer with outdoor performances of some of Shakespeare's classics. Sweet Tea Shakespeare is a project of Fayetteville State University. These talented actors perform Shakespeare and other classic plays "in beautiful environments with family-style flare by providing simple, elemental, magical theatre experiences with a nod to the diversity and heritage of southeastern North Carolina." That description from their website perfectly fits the Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex. So, when members of Sweet Tea Shakespeare asked museum staff about the possibility of performing here, the answer was an immediate "yes."

In an outdoor theater production the natural scenery often becomes another character in the story. The backyard of the Poe House with its majestic magnolia trees, brick patio area, and summer flowers is an ideal location for performing theater. The grounds are beautiful, having been cared for by different garden clubs over the years. Most recently the Dig & Dream Garden Club spruced up the yard by adding gorgeous knock out roses and other plants to create a welcoming atmosphere for the garden production.

Sweet Tea Shakespeare conducted a test run in early May with encore performances of *Much Ado About Nothing*, which had previously been performed at the

CONTINUED PAGE 2

Sweet Tea Shakespeare

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Cape Fear Botanical Gardens. Results were so positive with museum staff and the Sweet Tea Shakespeare cast and crew that plans were made to perform two more productions at the Poe House over the summer. First up was *Love's Labour's Lost* in June, which will be followed by *The Taming of the Shrew* July 16-20.

Performances of the show are at 7 p.m. nightly. This is preceded by half an hour of live music and preshow entertainment, so audience members are encouraged to come early. Food and drink is available for purchase from R Burger. Alcohol is not allowed. Audiences should bring their own seating and bug spray.

Performances are rain or shine. In case of rain, performances will move to Holy Trinity Church, 1601 Raeford Road.

Tickets: \$12 general admission; \$10 senior citizens/military; \$7.50 students; \$5 children 6-12 years; free under 5 years; \$5 FSU students. Purchase tickets online: www.sweetteashakespeare.com or call (910) 670-1724; tickets may also be purchased at the door.

We hope you will come enjoy *The Taming of the Shrew* in the beautiful 1897 Poe House back yard! Stay tuned to our website, check your email, and follow us on Facebook for information on upcoming shows from Sweet Tea Shakespeare at the 1897 Poe House.



The Taming of the Shrew

July 16-20, 2014
7pm The Poe House
801 Arsenal Avenue
Fayetteville, NC

\$12 General Admission
\$10 Military / Seniors
\$7.50 Students, \$5 FSU students
\$5 Children 6-12 yrs, Free Under 5 yrs

Food and drink available for purchase
Bring your own seating

For Tickets, please call (910) 359-1791
or visit <http://www.sweetteashakespeare.com>

This project is supported by the Arts Council in part by contributions from businesses and individuals and through grants from the City of Fayetteville, Cumberland County and the North Carolina Arts Council, an agency of the Department of Cultural Resources.

Cast and Crew for Taming of the Shrew

Christopher Sly :: Sean Hanlin
Gremio, Tailor :: Chris Brown
Hostess, Servant, Curtis, Pedant :: Amy Cox
Biondello, Lord :: Joey Narvaez
Baptista, Haberdasher, Page :: Marie Lowe
Lucentio, Huntsman :: Tyler Pow
Tranio, Huntsman :: Greg Griffin
Grumio :: Ruth Crews

Vincentio, Servant :: Brandon Bryan
Hortensio, Servant :: James Merkle
Bianca, Servant :: Kylie Mask
Katherine :: Robyne Parrish
Petrucchio :: Matthew Overturf
Director :: Greg Fiebig
Stage Manager :: Jamie Porter
Stage Manager :: Heidi Morel

Interns Gain Insight and Experience at the MCFHC

BY MEGAN MAXWELL

The Museum of the Cape Fear is lucky to have a great bunch of interns this summer! The museum is pleased to take part in the Youth Advocacy and Involvement Office State Government Internship Program. Through this program, we are able to select a paid intern each summer to assist with major museum projects or programs. This year's intern is Lisa Withers. Lisa is a graduate student in UNC-Greensboro's Public History program. Learn more about Lisa's project and her experience at the Museum of the Cape Fear by reading her article on page 4.

After a very competitive selection process, three high school students were chosen to provide guided tours of the 1897 Poe House and Arsenal Park during their summer break. Two students were selected as Poe House docents: Abby Mullis has volunteered with the museum during special events in the past. She is a rising senior at Fayetteville Christian School and a member of the local Lafayette Society with a passion for history. Abby plans to pursue a history degree in college. Our second Poe House docent is Kennedy Washington. Kennedy is a rising junior at Massey Hill Classical, member of Future Business Leaders of America, and has an interest in learning more about local history. Abby and Kennedy have also been assisting the education staff with projects in between scheduled tours.

You may have seen an article in the Fayetteville Observer featuring our own intern, Ben Herndon. Ben is a rising senior at Liberty Christian Academy, and a veteran of our Summer History Camp program. Ben's extensive knowledge of political and military history made him the perfect candidate to provide guided tours of Arsenal Park. Arsenal Park tours take place at 2:00 pm on Fridays this summer, and Ben is on hand in the Civil War gallery on Fridays beginning at 1:00 pm to give an overview of Arsenal history prior to each tour. All tours are free! Please stop by and say hello to these wonderful student volunteers.



Clockwise from Top: Intern Kennedy Washington poses with the Poe House sign; Intern Abby Mullis on a trip to Colonial Williamsburg; Intern Ben Herndon giving a tour of Arsenal Park (photo courtesy of the Fayetteville Observer).

The Key to Collections and More...

BY LISA WITHERS



Have you ever wondered where the objects in a historic house come from? What factors go into the decision making process to use certain objects to help bring a house to life? This summer, I had the opportunity to work with the 1897 E.A. Poe House Collection to learn the answers to these questions and more during my 10-week internship at the Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex.

As the collections intern, my job was to identify objects within the E.A. Poe Collection previously kept in off-site storage. With each box, I unpacked the items, compared the object to an inventory list, created a description of the object, took measurements, and photographed the object to create a database for the collection. I especially enjoyed researching

various items to determine the manufacturer, year, and location the item was made. Based on the database and corresponding research, the museum staff will be able to assess objects currently used in the Poe House and decide which items should be removed or added to ensure the Poe House and family are interpreted as accurately as possible.

Along with working with the collections, my internship also included serving as a group leader during the museum's annual summer camp. I really enjoyed learning not only how to plan and manage a youth summer camp but also learning about bag pipes, Marines in the Civil War, and how to play colonial games along with the students! Overall, I had an amazing experience during my summer internship at the Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex. I look forward to carrying the skills, knowledge, and ideas gained from this internship along with me as I begin my career as a public historian.



Above: Intern Lisa Withers enters artifact information into a database. The artifacts to the right were photographed by Lisa and show the diversity of the Poe House Collection.

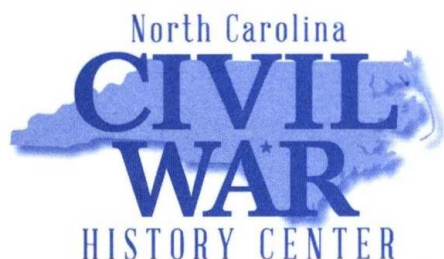
MCFHC Wins Survey Challenge for 2nd Year in a Row!

For a second consecutive year, the Museum of the Cape Fear has won the "Survey Challenge," a contest sponsored by the Fayetteville Area Convention and Visitors Bureau (FACVB). The surveys are completed by people visiting the area and show what attractions they are visiting while in town. Thanks to staff and volunteers asking visitors to fill out the small survey we submitted 407 completed surveys from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014. The museum also won the prize for the tourist attraction that submitted the most in one month—that occurred in Oct. when we turned in 59 surveys. By winning the challenge we will be rewarded with a Mellow Mushroom pizza party, courtesy of the FACVB. For winning the most surveys in one month challenge, we get free frozen yogurt from Sweet Frog. Congratulations on a job well done to our volunteers and staff.



Two for the Price of One!

By supporting this program you become a member of the Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex Foundation AND the North Carolina Civil War History Center! Join us today!



PHONE 910-491-0602
FAX 910-491-0633

The NC Civil War History Center is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

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☐ Check enclosed made payable to NCCWHC: Amt: _____

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Signature: _____

Billing Address: _____

What can I expect as a member?

- Quarterly newsletter
- Special mailings on events & programs
- Invitations to members-only events
- Special tours and programs
- The satisfaction of supporting quality educational programs and events, and preserving our history for future generations

Office Use Only

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Membership Levels: (please check one)

- ☐ Sustainer\$1,000
- ☐ Benefactor\$500
- ☐ Family/Patron.....\$100
- ☐ Individual\$25

Corporate:

- ☐ Arsenal Park\$5,000
- ☐ Poe House\$2,500
- ☐ Ghost Tower\$1,000
- ☐ Museum/History Center.....\$500

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

www.nccivilwarcenter.org



2014 Summer History Camp Highlights







801 Arsenal Avenue

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Visit us on the web at:

museumofthecapefear.ncdcr.gov

Museum Hours

Tuesday-Saturday 10-5

Sunday 1-5

1897 Poe House Tours

Tues-Fri 11:00, 1:00, 3:00

Saturday 10-5 on the hour

Sunday 1-5 on the hour

Museum Staff

David Reid
Administrator

Leisa Greathouse
Curator of Education

Megan Maxwell
1897 Poe House
Education Coordinator

Karen Wallace
Administrative
Assistant

Jim Frederickson
Carpenter

Weekend Staff
Louise White
Ruth Aldridge
Caitlyn Fisher

And more than 50
volunteers



The Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex consists of a NC southeast regional history museum, the 1897 Poe House, and Arsenal Park. Two floors of exhibits present the rich history of southeastern North Carolina, from the Paleo-Indian period to the first decades of the 1900s in the Museum of the Cape Fear. The fully restored and furnished 1897 Poe House, home of E.A. Poe, a Fayetteville brick maker, offers a glimpse of early twentieth-century life and the changes that defined this era. Finally, Arsenal Park marks the site commissioned in 1838 by the federal government to manufacture and store arms. The arsenal was used by the Confederacy during the Civil War, and it was destroyed by Union troops under the command of General William T. Sherman in March of 1865. Admission to the Museum Complex is free.

Upcoming Events



September 6,

2014

Festival of Yesteryear: A Celebration of Early America

10:00-5:00 pm

Focusing on the Colonial and Revolutionary War periods, this program features re-enactors demonstrating various aspects of daily life including blacksmithing, woodworking, music, toys and games, and militia drills. Living history groups include Camp Flintlock, the North Carolina Highland Regiment, and Captain Dry's Militia Company. Be sure to visit Apprentice Alley, where children can participate and learn a variety of trades through hands on crafts and activities. This event is held annually the Saturday after Labor Day and in partnership with Fayetteville's Lafayette Birthday Celebration honoring Revolutionary War hero marquis de Lafayette. For more on Lafayette's Birthday Celebration visit www.lafayettesociety.org FREE

October 17-18, 24-25

Hallowe'en Revels: Night Tours of the 1897 Poe House

6:00-9:00 pm

Actors with the Gilbert Theater portray members of the Poe household and family friends as they prepare for a night of Hallowe'en revels. These evening tours give visitors a chance to encounter Halloween customs and traditions from the past. Tours will run every 20 minutes

and are limited to 20 people per tour. Intermission from 7:40-8:00 pm each night. Tickets must be purchased at the door, no advance sales.

****Halloween décor will be up all month long and can be viewed daily during regularly scheduled Poe House tours.**

October 25, 2014

Poe House Trick-or-Treat 11:00-4:00 pm

The annual Poe House Trick or Treat features a costume contest (\$1 entry fee), scavenger hunt, and traditional Halloween carnival games for the kids. Listen to a ghost story then look for Poe's ravens in the 1897 Poe House. Don't forget to visit the museum, the exhibits just may come to life! FREE

November 25-Jan 4, 2015

Christmas at the 1897 Poe House

The Poe House Christmas décor can be viewed daily during regularly scheduled tours.

December 14, 2014

Holiday Jubilee 1:00-5:00 pm

Held annually in December, Holiday Jubilee encompasses the traditions of holidays past including music and cooking on the 1902 stove. Enjoy a Victorian caroling concert on the Poe House front porch and view the elaborate Christmas décor during this open house event.

The Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex is part of the NC Department of Cultural Resources/Division of State History Museums.